

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABU DH 02474 041054Z

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEA-07 EUR-08 EA-06 IO-06

NSC-05 SP-02 INR-05 CIAE-00 L-01 PRS-01 PM-03

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FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6568

INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

Z/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 011

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USMISSION USUN NY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 2474

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PAGE 02 ABU DH 02474 041054Z

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, RH, TC

SUBJECT: RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS: JOINING US-UK DEMARCHE
TO UAE

REF: ABU DHABI 2465

1. TAKING ADVANTAGE OF A PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED COURTESY CALL EVENING OF AUGUST 31, I BRIEFED SHAIKH SULTAN, RULER OF SHARJAH AND MEMBER OF UAE SUPREME COUNCIL OF RULERS, ON GENERAL THRUST OF US-UK PROPOSALS FOR RHOESIAN SETTLEMENT, EMPHASIZING CONCEPT OF INTERNATIONALLY FUNDED AND MANAGED ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND (ZDF) IN WHICH UAEG PARTICIPATION BEING REQUESTED.

2. DECISION OF BRIEF SULTAN TAKEN FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH BRITISH CHARGE ST. JOHN ARMITAGE WHO HAD ALREADY MENTIONED SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS TO UAE VICE PRESIDENT SHAIKH RASHID AND WHO ENCOURAGED SIMILAR APPROACH TO SHAIKH RASHID AND WHO ENCOURAGED SIMILAR APPROACH TO SHAIKH SULTAN. LATTER ALONG WITH RASHID HAS BEEN ONE OF MEMBERS OF UAE SUPREME COUNCIL OF RULERS MOST CONCERNED OVER CONTINUING OPENHANDED GENEROSITY OF UAE PRESIDENT SHAIKH ZAYID TO FOREIGN SUPPLICANTS FOR FINANCIAL AID. SULTAN IS MOREOVER CLOSEST TO ZAYID AMONG THE OTHER UAE RULERS AND IS CHAIRMAN OF BUDGET COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED BY SUPREME COUNCIL. FORTUNATELY, SULTAN ALSO HAS RELATIVELY STRONG PERSONAL INTEREST IN AFRICA (HE HOSTED MEETING OF ARAB AND AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS INB HARJAH LAST YEAR) AND HAS \$1.2 MILLION INVESTMENT IN ZAMBIA WHICH HE PLANS TO VISIT IN OCTOBER. THEREFORE, MY
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PAGE 03 ABU DH 02474 041054Z

BRITISH COLLEAGUE AND I AGREED THAT EARLY EFFORT TO INFORM SULTAN OF PURPOSE FOR PROPOSED ZDF AND ITS INTEGRAL RELATIONSHIP TO REST OF SETTLEMENT PACKAGE MIGHT HELP TO MINIMIZE POTENTIAL FOR OBJECTIONS FROM THE QUARTER AND MIGHT POSSIBLY EVEN GAIN SUPPORT FOR UAE PARTICIPATION IN ZDF FROM IMPORTANT MEMBER OF UAE RULING ELITE.

3. SHAIKH SULTAN LISTENED WITH INTEREST TO VERY ABBREVIATED VERSION OF DEMARCHE WHICH HAD BEEN EARLIER CONVEYED TO FOREIGN MINISTRY POLITICAL DIRECTOR AL-KINDI (REFTEL). SULTAN'S REACTION TO UK-US PROPOSALS, INCLUDING ZDF, WAS GENERALLY FAVORABLE IF NON-COMMITTAL. SAID HE THROUGH THEY WERE GOOD PROPOSALS AND WISHED THEM SUCCESS. HE MADE NO SPECIFIC COMMENT IN RESPONSE MY EXPRESSED HOPE UAEG WOULD PARTICIPATE IN PROPOSED ZDF BUT NEITHER DID HE DEMUR.

4. COMMENT: OBVIOUSLY IT STILL TOO EARLY TO KNOW WHAT REACTION UAE AND SPECIFICALLY SHAIKH ZAYID (WHOSE FUNDS, AFTER ALL, WILL BE THOSE INVOLVED) WILL MAKE TO JOINT US-UK REQUEST FOR A CONTRIBUTION

TO ZDF. FROM REACTION OF MIN STATE FOR FONAFF
GHUBBASH TO DEMARCH LAST YEAR ON THIS SUBJECT
(76 ABU DHABI 3465), WE ANTICIPATE THAT UAE REPLY
WILL NOT BE FORTHCOMING UNTIL GOVERNMENT HERE HAS HAD OPPORTUNITY
TO CONSULT WITH SAUDIS AND PERHAPS WITH KUWAITIS TO KNOW HOW THEY
WILL RESPOND. IF SAUDIS DECIDE TO RESPOND POSITIVELY AND GEN-
EROUSLY TO OUR APPEAL FOR PARTICIPATION IN ZDF, CHANCES THAT
UAE WILL DO SO WILL BE CORRESPONDINGLY INCREASED.
MEANTIME, WE WILL IN OUR CONTACTS WITH SENIOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS AND FINANCIAL OFFICIALS HERE CONTINUE TO URGE
THEIR POSITIVE SUPPORT OF US-UK SETTLEMENT PACKAGE
FOR RHODESIA, INCLUDING ITS ECONOMIC AS WELL AS ITS
POLITICAL ASPECTS.
WRAMPELMEIER
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PAGE 04 ABU DH 02474 041054Z

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